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BRIEFING PAPER

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Multilateral Issues - NATO

Outstanding Multilateral Issues during First 90 Days

Political:

-- Alliance posture towards the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan: to what degree will economic/diplomatic, and political-measures agreed after the invasion be maintained, and how to develop further the process of allocating defense responsibilities within and without Europe ("division of labor").

-- Growing interest of several Allies in improving the structure and content of consultations between and among NATO members: whether to emulate the EC-9 pattern of more frequent, less formal, and more restricted ministerial gatherings, and whether to undertake a comprehensive review of Alliance strategy, perhaps at a ministerial session in February or March.

-- The need for decisions on issues raised at the Madrid CSCE meeting, especially a US response to the French proposal, supported by the rest of the Alliance, for a post-Madrid conference on European disarmament (CDE) under the aegis of CSCE.

Defense:

-- Allied (combined) and US response to developments in and around Poland.

-- Allied and individual responses to developments in the SWA and PG/IO areas.

-- Continuity of US emphasis on current highly visible institutionalized or semi-institutionalized NATO "initiatives": three percent goal; long-term defense program, Afghanistan Phase I and Phase II program; host nation support; increased infrastructure funding.

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FA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

-- American-European arms cooperation in the development, production, co-development, co-production of weapons and of the "families of weapons."

-- Development of NATO ministerial guidance 1981 -- this may well have a major impact on defense resource allocation strategies of European NATO countries.

-- Rapid deployment force unit allocations versus rapid reinforcement force unit allocations and NATO impacts.

-- Aid levels for Turkey and Portugal (and inevitably Greece), with sub-issues involving US positions in the ad hoc group and the type of US contribution to the Portuguese frigate program.

-- Chemical warfare: Allies will be interested in US decisions on CW production and the relation to CW capability, which may be addressed by the DPC sometime during the spring.

-- Access and overflight privileges related to RDF deployment.

-- Preparations for and establishment of positions for the Nuclear Planning Group Ministerial Meeting in Bonn in early April 1981.

-- Potential FRG decisions on deployment of Pershing II (reduced range) vice Pershing IA.

Nuclear:

-- Long-Range Theater Nuclear Force (LRTNF) modernization, in particular implementing the basing decisions by the FRG and Italy, and stimulating similar action on the part of Belgium and the Netherlands.

-- Enhanced Radiation/Reduced Blast warhead production/deployment decision, especially possible European deployment of 8" and Lance warheads.

-- Continuity of the strategy presented to the Alliance in PD-59.

-- High Level Group (HLG) study of the overall Theater Nuclear Force needs of the Alliance.

Negotiations and Talks Underway as of January 20, 1981:

-- Preliminary exchanges on LRTNF with the Soviets in Geneva may be resumed during the first 90 days of the new Administration.

-- The talks on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions in Europe (MBFR) are scheduled to resume in Vienna in the spring.

-- The Madrid CSCE meeting will reconvene on January 27, 1981.

Negotiations and Talks Expected to Commence within First Six Months

-- It should be noted that within the first six months the US will have to prepare for participation in the April meeting of the Nuclear Planning Group in Bonn and the Spring Ministerial sessions of the Defense Planning Committee and the North Atlantic Council.

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